

REMARKS

Claims 18 and 29 have been amended and claims 3, 20 and 31 have been cancelled herein. Hence, claims 1, 2, 4-19, 21-30 and 32-51 are currently pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Section 2 of the office action objected to claims 12 and 18-39 for various informalities. These claim objections are addressed in detail below.

Claim 12 was objected to because “the slots” allegedly lacked an antecedent basis. Claim 12 depends from claim 11, which depends from claim 10. Claim 10 recites “slots defined in the aperture.” This recitation of “slots” in claim 10 provides an antecedent for “the slots” in claim 12.

Claims 18 and 29 have been amended to recite “leads with conductive ends” thus overcoming the objection.

Claim 29 has been further amended to replace “disposer” with – appliance – thus overcoming the objection.

Applicants believe all of the informalities have been addressed and overcome.

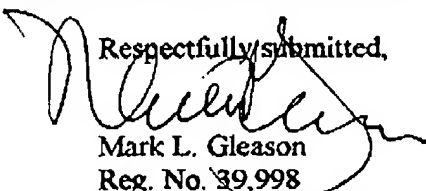
Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Sections 3-4 of the office action rejected claims 3, 20 and 31 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 2, 20 and 31 have been canceled herein, rendering the rejections thereof moot.

Conclusion

As evidenced by the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants have made a genuine effort to address each concern raised in the office action. All of the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any concerns or questions regarding the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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